



# Holy Cross Retreat Center Newsletter

Over 65 YEARS OF  
RETREAT MINISTRY!

FEBRUARY 2024

## Retreats for those seeking inner transformation, silence, and healing

Feb. 9-11 **Incarnational Spirituality: Contemplation and Whole Hearted Living.** Fr. Henry will explore our images of God and the sense of “original blessing” (the indwelling of the Holy Spirit) in our mystical tradition.

Feb. 14 Ash Wednesday 6:30pm Mass and ashes in the main Chapel

Feb. 19-21 Parish Mission St. Luke El Paso  
“Fasting and Feasting” Fr. Tom Smith  
Sessions begin 7:00 pm. All are welcome.

Thursdays Feb. 22, 29, Mar. 7, 14, 21<sup>st</sup> 6:30pm  
**Lenten Evening Series using “The Chosen”**  
videos on the life of Jesus and the apostles.  
(Six sessions in the small conference room)

Feb 23-25 **Contemplative Retreat,** Lent is a wonderful time to renew our spiritual lives in preparation for Easter.



Mar 4-7 Parish Mission at St. Raphael parish in El Paso, “Fasting and Feasting”

March 8-10 The Healing Power of Forgiveness Retreat.

*Holding a grudge is like drinking poison, And waiting for the other person to get sick*



A retreat to invite God and others to heal and renew our hearts! Led by Fr. Tom

April 12-14 “The Road to Joy: Pathways to Transformation” Led by Fr. Henry Beck OFM



The Spring Retreat for Recovering Alcoholics will feature Fr. Tom Weston and many people who find the mutual support of AA and a retreat important for their sobriety. **April 19-21..**

Call 575 524-3688 to register. More information and brochures are can be viewed at [www.holycrossretreat.org](http://www.holycrossretreat.org) under “retreats”



Fr. Henry Beck and Fr. Rijo, front right, are having lunch with the Awakening retreat for the students from UTEP in El Paso. Both UTEP and NMSU come twice a year with groups.



A group of immigrants joined us for our Christmas celebration for staff and volunteers. It was a delightful to have children receive gifts as we assisted them on their way to their sponsors.



As part of our ongoing efforts to save energy and upgrade the buildings about thirty more old windows were replaced with double sealed movable windows. This will allow us to open the windows and let the breeze come through screens, reducing the need for Air conditioning. Here is a picture of some of them in the Casita (former friary) courtyard. We also replaced the large windows in the Hacienda living room and dining room, making them more attractive and bright.

The Laudato Si! committee now includes representatives from an Episcopal and a Lutheran church nearby. They have installed solar panels and created an active “Green Team” to promote care for the earth.



Volunteers have constructed a very nice pergola with benches and a place to hang two meditation bells. It is situated near the labyrinth and the Chapel in a good place for quiet. The next time you come to Holy Cross Retreat Center take some time to appreciate this addition! Thanks to Paul Stadsvold, Joe Benavidez, Jerry Davis and others who helped.



Bobbi Provencio was a valued employee of the Holy Cross Retreat Center for many years. Recently she celebrated her 90th birthday during a mass with her extended family. Many of her grandchildren and great grandchildren in this picture were “baby Jesus” during the *Los Pastores* production that originated here at the retreat center.